

Annexe B. Chronology 2000

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For the convenience of the reader, key words are indicated in the right-hand column, opposite each entry. They refer to the subject-areas covered in the entry. Definitions of the acronyms can be found on page xv. The dates are according to local time.

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| <i>10 Jan.</i> | Acting Russian President Putin signs the 2000 Russian National Security Concept (replacing the 1997 Security Concept), allowing the use of nuclear weapons 'to repulse armed aggression, if all other means of resolving the crisis have been exhausted or have proven ineffective'. | Russia;
Nuclear
weapons |
| <i>13 Jan.</i> | The 1999 Algerian Law on Civil Concord, offering amnesty to Algerian rebels, expires. On 19 Jan. the Algerian Government launches a military offensive against the remaining rebels. | Algeria |
| <i>15 Jan.</i> | After calls by the highest Indonesian Islamic Authority, (Council of Ulema) for a jihad ('holy war') against Christians, violence between Christians and Muslims spreads from the Molucca province to other parts of Indonesia. On 6 Apr. there is a new call for a jihad in the Malucca province. | Indonesia |
| <i>27 Jan.</i> | Acting Russian President Putin announces plans to increase the state defence order for 2000 by 50 per cent. | Russia; Arms
procurement |
| <i>3 Feb.</i> | In pursuance of UN General Assembly Resolution A/53/77D, adopted on 4 Dec. 1998, the Mongolian State Great Hural (Parliament) adopts a law on Mongolia's nuclear weapon-free status. | Mongolia;
NWFZ |
| <i>6 Feb.</i> | Acting Russian President Putin announces that federal forces have taken control of Grozny, the capital of the Russian republic of Chechnya. Fighting continues in the south of the republic. | Russia/
Chechnya |
| <i>7 Feb.</i> | US President Clinton submits to the Congress a military budget proposal for fiscal year 2001 which includes \$60 billion for arms procurement, representing an increase of 30 per cent in real terms over the budget proposal three years earlier. | USA; Military
expenditure |
| <i>11 Feb.</i> | After the failure of the Irish Republican Army (IRA) to comply with the decommissioning of weapons, the British Government suspends the Northern Ireland Assembly and reinstates direct rule over Northern Ireland. On 15 Feb. the IRA withdraws from negotiations on coordination of the weapon decommissioning process. After IRA compliance with the weapon decommissioning, the Northern Ireland Assembly is reinstated on 30 May. | Northern
Ireland/UK |

- 16 Feb.* NATO and Russia agree to resume their contacts and dialogue in the Euro-Atlantic area on the basis of the 1997 NATO–Russia Founding Act and through cooperation in the Permanent Joint Council (PJC), 11 months after Russia suspended relations in protest over the NATO-led bombing of Yugoslavia. NATO/Russia
- 23 Feb.* The UN Transitional Administration in East Timor (UNTAET) takes over command of the territory of East Timor from the Australian-led International Force for East Timor (INTERFET). East Timor; UN
- 1 Mar.* The EU foreign ministers, meeting in Brussels, set up the first decision-making structures for military crisis-management operations, according to the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), agreed at the 10–11 Dec. 1999 European Council meeting. EU; ESDP
- 6–7 Mar.* China and India, meeting in Beijing, hold their first-ever security dialogue at the official level. Despite differences in views the two sides agree to continue the dialogue. China/India
- 15 Mar.* The foreign ministers and heads of delegations of nine East African countries, meeting in Nairobi, sign the Nairobi Declaration, deploring the easy availability of small arms and light weapons in the region. Arms control; Small arms; East Africa
- 16 Mar.* A conference is held in Moscow to discuss a Russian proposal for a Global Control System (GCS) for preventing the spread of ballistic missiles and missile technology. Representatives from over 40 countries, as well as several international organizations, including the UN, take part in the conference. Missile technology; Russia
- 20 Mar.* During a visit to Chechnya, Acting Russian President Putin announces that Russia will withdraw military units from Chechnya in order to comply with limits imposed by the 1990 CFE Treaty. Russia will leave troops to be stationed there permanently. Russia/Chechnya; CFE Treaty
- 21 Mar.* In accordance with the 1998 Wye River Memorandum, Israel transfers nearly 40 per cent of the West Bank, including several Palestinian towns and villages, to full or partial Palestinian control. Israel/Palestine
- 26 Mar.* Acting President Putin is elected Russian President. Russia
- 6 Apr.* The Zimbabwean House of Assembly approves the Land Acquisition Act, which amends the constitution to enable the government to take over farms, without giving compensation, and redistribute them to landless war veterans. The legislation legitimizes recent waves of occupation. Zimbabwe

- 8 Apr. After the collapse of the ceasefire, agreed in the 1999 Lusaka Ceasefire Agreement, the participating forces in the war in the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC) agree on a new ceasefire, beginning on 14 Apr. The heads of state and government of Angola, the DRC, Namibia and Zimbabwe, meeting in Kinshasa, issue a communiqué calling for the deployment, as rapidly as possible, of an extended UN peacekeeping force, the UN Organization Mission in the Democratic Republic of Congo (MONUC), authorized by UN Security Council Resolution 1291 on 24 Feb. DRC; UN; Angola; Namibia; Zimbabwe
- 14 Apr. The Russian State Duma ratifies the 1993 START II Treaty. The Duma also ratifies the START II Protocol extending the treaty's implementation period as well as a Sep. 1997 package of agreements concerning the ABM Treaty. The adopted ratification law stipulates that Russia will not exchange the instruments of ratification until the USA ratifies the 1997 package of ABM Treaty agreements, which face considerable opposition in the US Senate. On 4 May President Putin signs the resolution, officially ratifying the treaty. Russia; START II; ABM Treaty; NMD
- 17 Apr. Israel notifies the UN that it is planning to withdraw its forces from Lebanon by 7 July. Israel/Lebanon
- 21 Apr. The Russian Security Council adopts a new military doctrine, replacing the 1993 Basic Guidelines for Russia's Military Doctrine and supplementing the 2000 National Security Concept (see 10 Jan.). It is confirmed by a presidential decree on the same day. The new doctrine permits the use of nuclear weapons in a broader range of circumstances than before. It states that Russia reserves the right to use nuclear weapons in response to the use of nuclear or other types of weapons of mass destruction, as well as in response to 'large-scale aggression using conventional weapons in situations critical to the national security of the Russian Federation'. Russia; WMD
- 21 Apr. The Russian State Duma ratifies the 1996 Comprehensive Nuclear Test-Ban Treaty (CTBT). The instrument of ratification is deposited with the UN Secretary-General on 30 June. Russia; CTBT
- 21 Apr. Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Tajikistan and Uzbekistan sign a treaty in Tashkent, pledging to jointly combat terrorism, religious extremism, organized crime and other threats to regional security and stability. Central Asia
- 24 Apr.–9 May The Sixth Non-Proliferation Treaty (NPT) Review Conference is held at the UN Headquarters, New York. On 20 May a Final Declaration is adopted by consensus. It reviews the progress made in implementing the NPT since the decision of 1995 to extend the treaty indefinitely. It contains a section setting out a number of concrete arms control and disarmament measures to be taken by the five legally recognized nuclear weapons states; these states reiterate their 'unequivocal commitment' to the ultimate goal of complete nuclear disarmament. NPT

- 30 Apr. Prior to Philippine Army attacks, the Moro Islamic Liberation Front (MILF) rebel force unilaterally suspends peace talks with the Philippine Government. The peace talks are resumed but fighting continues. Philippines
- 30 Apr.–4 May After the withdrawal of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) Monitoring Group (ECOMOG) forces, clashes break out between the UN Mission in Sierra Leone (UNAMSIL) peacekeeping forces and rebel forces, during which UN peacekeepers are taken hostage. They are released on 15 July. Sierra Leone
ECOMOG;
UN
- 12 May At a meeting held outside Geneva, Indonesia's permanent representative to the UN, Hassa Wirajuda, and the representative of the separatist Free Aceh Movement (Gerakam Aceh Merdeka, GAM), Zaini Abdullah, sign an agreement on a three-month ceasefire beginning on 2 June. The agreement is intended to provide a basis for further negotiations on the future of the Aceh province in north-western Sumatra, Indonesia. On 24 Sep. the ceasefire is extended until 15 Jan. 2001. Indonesia
- 12 May Following an unsuccessful mediation attempt brokered by the Organization of African Unity (OAU), heavy fighting erupts along the disputed Eritrean–Ethiopian border. Ethiopia/
Eritrea; OAU
- 17 May The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1298, strongly condemning the continued fighting between Eritrea and Ethiopia and deciding that all states shall prevent the sale or supply to the two states of arms and related *matériel*, including weapons and ammunition, military vehicles and equipment. UN; Eritrea/
Ethiopia
- 24 May The ministerial meeting of the North Atlantic Council, held in Florence, Italy, discusses peace support operations in Bosnia and Herzegovina and the 1999 NATO South East Europe Initiative as well as practical arrangements for EU access to NATO planning capabilities. NATO;
Bosnia and
Herzegovina;
EU
- 24 May Israel withdraws its last troops from Lebanon, nearly six weeks ahead of schedule. (See 17 Apr.) On 16 June UN Secretary-General Annan confirms that Israel has completed its withdrawal of troops from Lebanon, in full compliance with 1978 UN Security Council Resolution 425. The South Lebanon Army (SLA) militia is dissolved. Israel/Lebanon
- 4 June Russian President Putin and US President Clinton, meeting in Moscow, sign a Memorandum of Agreement on the Establishment of a Joint Center for the Exchange of Data from Early Warning Systems and Notification of Missile Launches. In addition, they announce the US–Russian Plutonium Disposition Agreement, under which each side is to dispose of 34 tonnes of weapon-grade plutonium (see 1 Sep.). A Joint Statement on Principles of Strategic Stability is also issued, providing for the intensification of the discussions on a START III treaty and on questions relating to the ABM Treaty. Russia/USA;
Missile
launches;
Plutonium
disposal;
START III;
ABM Treaty

- 8 June Russian President Putin imposes direct rule on Chechnya. On 12 June he nominates Mufti Akhmed Kadyrov as Head of Administration in Chechnya. Russia/
Chechnya
- 13–15 June South Korean President Kim Dae-Jung and North Korean leader Chairman Kim Jong Il meet in Pyongyang. A Joint Declaration is issued, containing commitments on reconciliation and reunification and on the establishment of military contacts and economic cooperation. This is the first meeting between the leaders of the two states since the division of Korea after World War II. North Korea/
South Korea
- 18 June Eritrean Foreign Minister Haile Woldetsae and Ethiopian Foreign Minister Seyoum Mesfin, meeting in Algiers, sign a preliminary ceasefire agreement, brokered by the OAU, under which the two armies are to disengage within two weeks of the deployment of a UN force. A 25-km buffer zone is to be established on the Eritrean side of the border. Eritrea/
Ethiopia;
OAU; UN
- 19–20 June At a European Council meeting at Santa Maria da Feira, Portugal, the EU heads of state and government endorse the decisions taken at the EU Council meeting in Helsinki on 10–11 Dec. 1999 to strengthen the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP) (see 1 Mar.). The Council also decides to invite European members of NATO that are not members of the EU (the Czech Republic, Hungary, Iceland, Norway, Poland and Turkey) as well as NATO non-member states such as Russia and Ukraine to take part in EU-led operations. EU; Europe;
ESDP
- 19–22 June Russia hosts a CSBM observation visit of OSCE representatives to a ‘region of military activities’ in Chechnya. Russia/
Chechnya;
OSCE;
CSBMs
- 25–27 June At the conference Towards a Community of Democracies, held in Warsaw and attended by over 100 ministers of foreign affairs and other high representatives, the nations of the Community of Democracies issue the Warsaw Declaration, affirming their shared commitment to a core set of universal democratic principles and supporting each other in meeting these objectives. Democracy
- 26 June Owing to continued fighting between Christians and Muslims, the Indonesian President Wahid declares a civil state of emergency in the province of Molucca (see 15 Jan.). Indonesia
- 5 July The heads of state and governments of the Shanghai Forum (China, Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan, Russia, Tajikistan), meeting in Dushanbe, Tajikistan, issue the Dushanbe Declaration, stressing the growing importance of the Shanghai Forum in ensuring stability and security in Central Asia. The Declaration encourages regional interaction in the political, diplomatic, military and military technology fields and stresses the need to jointly fight religious extremism, international terrorism and national separatism, recognizing the Afghan conflict as a serious threat to regional security. Central Asia
Shanghai
Forum;
Afghanistan

- 11 July* A summit meeting of the OAU, held in Lomé, Togo, adopts the Constitutive Act of the African Union, proposing the establishment of an African Union to promote regional development and integration on the continent. Africa; OAU African Union
- 11–19 July* US President Clinton hosts a meeting between Israeli Prime Minister Ehud Barak and Palestinian President Yasser Arafat at Camp David, Maryland. Five key areas are discussed: the right for Palestinians to return to Israel; implementation of a shared water-management agreement; the future of Israeli settlers in the West Bank and Gaza; delineation of the final border areas for Palestine; and the future status of Jerusalem. Israel/Palestine; USA
- 18 July* Chinese President Jiang Zemin and Russian President Putin, meeting in Beijing, state that maintenance of and strict compliance with the ABM Treaty is of paramount importance and that China and Russia therefore register their unequivocal opposition to the US national missile defence (NMD) programme. China/Russia; ABM Treaty; NMD
- 21 July* Russian President Putin and US President Clinton, at a meeting of the Group of Eight (G8) industrialized nations held in Okinawa, Japan, issue a joint statement that their two states will work together on a new mechanism to supplement the Missile Technology Control Regime (MTCR). They state that they are prepared to renew and expand their cooperation in the area of theatre missile defences (TMD) and consider the possibility of involving other states. USA/Russia; MTCR; G8; TMD
- 21–23 July* In the Final Communiqué of the G8 meeting, the leaders state that the international community should act urgently and effectively to prevent and resolve armed conflicts. Therefore, a ‘Culture of Prevention’ should be promoted throughout the global community. G8; Conflict prevention;
- 26–29 July* North Korea, for the first time, attends the annual meeting of the ASEAN Regional Forum (ARF) annual meeting, held in Bangkok. The North Korean Foreign Minister holds talks with his counterparts from Japan, South Korea and the USA. North Korea; ASEAN
- 27 July* The Defence Ministers of the six largest arms producing countries of the EU—France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Sweden and the United Kingdom—meeting at Farnborough, UK, sign the Framework Agreement Concerning Measures to Facilitate the Restructuring and Operation of the European Defence Industry. Arms production; Arms transfers
- 28 July* Taliban and non-Afghan forces launch an offensive against the United Islamic Front for the Salvation of Afghanistan (UIFSA, the Northern Alliance). The town of Nahreen is captured, and later Talqan, the last major town controlled by the UIFSA. Afghanistan
- 28 July* The UN Interim Force in Lebanon (UNIFIL) takes over control of the South Lebanon border zone, formerly occupied by Israel. On 9 Aug. Lebanese Government forces are deployed into the zone. Lebanon; UN; Israel

- 29 July An international scientific team completes the closure of the last site of the former Soviet nuclear test area at Semipalatinsk, Kazakhstan. USSR; Kazakhstan; Nuclear testing
- 31 July The UN Security Council unanimously adopts Resolution 1312, establishing the United Nations Mission in Eritrea and Ethiopia (UNMEE), in anticipation of a peacekeeping operation subject to future authorization. UN; Eritrea/ Ethiopia
- 13 Aug. Delegates attending the Somali peace conference in Arta, Djibouti, inaugurate an interim Somali National Assembly. On 25 Aug. the Assembly elects Abdulkassim Salad Hassan as the new Somali President, being the first widely recognized president of Somalia since the military overthrow of Siad Barre in 1990. Somalia
- 28 Aug. A peace agreement on Burundi is signed in Arusha, Tanzania, in the presence of US President Clinton and former South African President Mandela. The latter is the broker of the agreement. Two armed Hutu rebel organizations did not participate in the negotiations, and four Tutsi parties do not sign the agreement. Burundi
- 1 Sep. US President Clinton defers decision on authorizing the deployment of a limited national missile defence (NMD) system. USA; NMD
- 1 Sep. US Vice-President Gore and Russian Prime Minister Kasyanov, meeting in Moscow, sign the Plutonium Disposition Agreement, requiring each party to dispose of 34 metric tonnes of weapon-grade plutonium. (See 4 June.) USA/Russia
- 6 Sep. Russian President Putin and US President Clinton, meeting at the UN Headquarters, New York, agree on a Strategic Stability Cooperation Initiative as a constructive basis for strengthening trust between the two states and for further development of agreed measures to enhance strategic stability and counter the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction, missiles and missile technology. The two presidents approve an implementation plan as a basis for continuing this work. USA/Russia; WMD; Missile technology
- 8 Sep. At the UN Millennium Summit, held at the UN Headquarters, New York, the world leaders unanimously adopt the UN Millennium Declaration (General Assembly Resolution 55/2), making commitments to subject sanctions regimes to regular review, to urge constructive action on disarmament, and to strengthen cooperation between the UN and regional organizations. The declaration also calls on UN member states to eliminate weapons of mass destruction, particularly nuclear weapons. UN; WMD
- 19 Sep. The NATO Permanent Council and the EU Political and Security Committee hold their first joint meeting at the EU headquarters in Brussels. NATO/EU

- 24 Sep. Presidential elections are held in Yugoslavia. The Democratic Opposition's joint candidate, Kostunica, claims victory. The Milosevic regime maintains that a second round of voting is necessary. Yugoslavia
- 25–26 Sep. South Korean Defence Minister Cho Sung Tae and Minister of the People's Army of North Korea Kim Il Chul meet in Heiju, South Korea, to discuss confidence-building measures and ways to decrease the tension between the two countries. South Korea/
North Korea;
CBMs
- 28 Sep. Israeli Likud Party leader Ariel Sharon visits a Muslim holy site (Temple Mount) in Jerusalem. Riots break out in Jerusalem between Palestinians and Israeli police forces and spread to other parts of Israel and Palestinian territory, escalating into open armed conflict. Israel/
Palestine
- 6 Oct. The Yugoslav Constitutional Court rules that the Democratic Opposition's candidate, Kostunica, was elected Yugoslav President on 24 Sep. Former Yugoslav President Milosevic concedes defeat. On 7 Oct. Kostunica is sworn in as Yugoslav President. On 1 Nov. the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia is admitted to the UN and on 10 Nov. to the OSCE. Yugoslavia;
UN; OSCE
- 9 Oct. EU foreign ministers, meeting in Luxembourg, unanimously vote to start lifting international sanctions on Yugoslavia. The embargo on oil sales and the ban on commercial air travel are removed, but the EU arms embargo remains in force. EU/
Yugoslavia
- 12 Oct. At a meeting in Washington, DC, the Special Envoy of the North Korean National Defence Commission, Vice-Marshal Jo Myong Rok, states that North Korea reaffirms the principles of the 1994 US–North Korean Agreed Framework, declaring that North Korea will not launch long-range missiles of any kind while talks on the missile issue with the USA continue. North Korea;
USA; Missile
launches
- 22 Oct. After three weeks of persistent violence between Palestinians and Israeli armed forces, Israeli Prime Minister Barak formally suspends the Middle East peace process in order to reassess Israel's policy and to form a national emergency government. Israel/
Palestine
- 31 Oct. Foreign Minister Papandreou of Greece and Foreign Minister Cem of Turkey, meeting in Budapest, agree on a package of confidence-building measures in order to pursue the bilateral process of détente and rapprochement. On 6 Dec. Greece and Turkey agree to notify each other of military exercises scheduled for 2001. Greece/
Turkey; CBMs
- 9 Nov. The Russian Security Council announces that the Russian armed forces will be cut by 600 000 troops over a period of five years. Russia
- 13 Nov. The Western European Union (WEU) Council of Ministers, meeting in Marseille, sign the Marseille Declaration, according to which the WEU responsibilities and operational functions in the area of defence and security policy are handed over to the EU. WEU/EU

- 13 Nov. Russian President Putin proposes further reductions of Russian and US strategic nuclear warheads, lowering the level to 1500 or less. Russia/USA; Nuclear weapons
- 20 Nov. The EU foreign and defence ministers (except that of Denmark), meeting in Brussels, issue the Declaration on Military Capabilities Commitment, providing the EU with a joint rapid reaction force intended to respond to crisis situations in which US-led NATO forces are not involved. It is pointed out that it is important to reach an agreement on EU access to NATO military capabilities and assets (see 1 Mar. and 19–20 June). EU; ESDP
- 20 Nov. The UN General Assembly adopts, by a vote of 88 in favour, 5 against and 66 abstentions, Resolution A/55/559-B on the preservation of and compliance with the 1972 ABM Treaty, calling for renewed efforts to strengthen the treaty. UN; ABM Treaty
- 21 Nov. China pledges to introduce a national export control system for missile technologies and related dual-use products. China; MTCR
- 27–28 Nov. The Ministerial Council of the OSCE, meeting in Vienna, fails to agree on a final document. It approves the OSCE Document on Small Arms and Light Weapons, in which the participating states agree to cooperate in order to halt the uncontrolled spread of small arms and light weapons. OSCE; Small arms
- 30 Nov. The USA completes the destruction of the last chemical munition stored on Johnston Atoll. USA; Chemical weapons
- 7–9 Dec. The European Council, meeting in Nice, France, adopts the Presidency's report on the European Security and Defence Policy (ESDP), providing for the development of the Union's military capacity, the creation of permanent political and military structures and the incorporation into the Union of the crisis management functions of the WEU. EU/NATO; ESDP; WEU
- 11 Dec. The EU Intergovernmental Conference, meeting at Nice, France, agrees on the text of the Treaty of Nice. The treaty amends the 1997 Amsterdam Treaty and includes institutional issues not settled before. The Treaty of Nice is signed on 26 Feb. 2001. EU
- 11 Dec. Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and the USA, meeting in Geneva, sign an agreement providing for the phased elimination under the 1991 START I Treaty of the last SS-24 ICBMs remaining on Ukrainian soil. START I
- 12 Dec. Ethiopian Prime Minister Zenawi and Eritrean President Afwerki sign, at a meeting outside Algiers, a peace agreement, brokered by the OAU, Algeria and the USA. The agreement establishes commissions to mark the common border, to exchange prisoners and to return displaced people. The UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea (UNMEE) will monitor the ceasefire (see 31 July). Eritrea/ Ethiopia; OAU; Algeria; USA

- 14 Dec. NATO releases its Report on Options for Confidence and Security Building Measures, Verification, Non-proliferation, Arms Control and Disarmament, as mandated by the 1999 Washington Summit. NATO
- 14 Dec. Belarus, Kazakhstan, Russia, Ukraine and the USA sign, in Geneva, an amendment to the Memorandum of Agreement to the 1987 INF Treaty, ending the monitoring and inspection regime of the treaty. INF Treaty
- 16 Dec. Russian Foreign Minister Ivanov and US Secretary of State Albright sign, in Brussels, a Memorandum of Understanding on Notification of Missile Launches, expanding prior launch notification regimes and complementing the US–Russian agreement on early-warning information (see 4 June). Russia/USA; Missile launches
- 19 Dec. The UN Security Council adopts, by a vote of 13 in favour and none against, with 2 abstentions (China and Malaysia), Resolution 1333, deciding that all states shall prevent the supply, sale and transfer of arms and related *matériel* to the territory of Afghanistan under Taliban control. The resolution also demands that Afghanistan’s Taliban authorities cooperate in international efforts to bring indicted terrorists to justice. Afghanistan; UN
- 30–31 Dec. The leaders of the Gulf Co-operation Council (GCC), meeting in Manama, Bahrain, sign the Manama Declaration, calling for a mutual defence agreement to fend off potential external security threats. Persian Gulf; GCC
- 31 Dec. Russia meets the deadline stipulated by the 1999 Istanbul OSCE Summit Meeting for the elimination of its excess treaty-limited equipment (TLE) in Georgia, according to the 1990 CFE Treaty. Russia/ Georgia; CFE Treaty